to reduce the consumption of wood and to use alternative materials which are available in the market.

Flaws in Education System

545. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the press newsitem captioned "Flaws in education system discovered" as reported in the Hindustan Times dated June 8, 1996;

(b) if so, the details and facts thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to bring amendment in the education policy to make it effective and job oriented; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Report, inter alia, refers to the drop-out rates, resources and issue of quality.

(c) and (d). The National Policy on Education (NPE), 1986 and its Programme of Action (POA) were up-dated and placed before the Parliament in 1992. As of now, the emphasis would be on toning up implementation and stepping up resources for education so that there is a better linkage between education and the world of work and improvement of access, retention and quality at all stages of education, particularly elementary education.

[Translation]

Setting up of Bhasha Ayog

546. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken a dicision to set up "Sanskrit Aur Pracheen Bhasha Ayog";

(b) if so, the details thereof and the progress made in this regard;

(c) the details of Chaturvedi Report in this regard;

(d) by when the said Ayog will start functioning; and

(e) the reasons for delay, if any, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) to (c). The main recommendations of the Chaturvedi Committee Report was to set up a Sanskrit and Classical Languages Commission through an Act of Parliament, as a national apex body for development of Sanskrit and Classical languages.

(d) No time frame has been fixed for this purpose.

(e) Does not arise.

[English]

Management of Water Resources

547. DR. ARUN KUMAR SARMA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose institutional innovations in the management of water resources in the country to make the provision and maintenance of irrigation services much more responsive to the farmer interests; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Irrigation being a state subject, operation and maintenance of irrigation systems is carried out by the State Governments. Recognising the impact of management turnover on irrigation efficiency, the National Water Policy (1987) emphasises farmers involvement in irrigation management. Government of India has been promoting farmers participation in irrigation management through its centrally sponsored Command Area Development programme and various externally aided irrigation management programmes.

[Translation]

Inter-State Water Dispute

548. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) the present position of inter-State water disputes among Delhi, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan;

(b) the reasons for delay in resolving these disputes;

(c) the details of the outcome of the meetings of Chief Ministers/senior officials of these States, held during the last three years; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Union Government to resolve these disputes amicably?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (d). The inter-State dispute regarding surplus Ravi-Beas waters was referred to a Tribunal constituted by the Central